

Salutem in Christo.

Good men and euill belite in contraries. The good in seeking for trueth, and maintenance therof: Euill, in hiding of Trueth, and oppressing therof: And so consequently to publish Trueth, is to please the good, and to displease the euill. Wherefore, hearing & amongst the common sortes of men at this time: it is not certainly knowen what is the cause that & Duke of Norffolk is newly committed to & Towre and sundrie others: And knowynge that good men wil be wel satisfied to vnderstand the truth, which euill men wold couer and oppresse: I could not but in conscience to satisfie the good, and brydle or stop the lyeng and open sclaunderous mouthes of the euill and seditious, notifie thus much to you, whereby you maye also communicate & same to others, for that it is likely that false and sclaunderous reportes wil be readily made hereof, to serue the appetites of the euill disposed.

First, it is not vnknowen that the Duke of Norffolke did of late yeares secretly practise to haue married wth the Scottissh queene without the knowledge of the Quenes Maiestie our Soueraigne Lady.

It is not also knowne y^e the said Scott-
tish Quene hath ben the most dangerous
ennemy against the Quenes Maiestie our
Souveraigne Lady, that lyued, in that she
sought to haue the Crowne of England fro
her Maiestie, immediatly after Quene
Maryes death.

It is also well knowne that whan she
could not get it, neyther by force nor con-
nyng, she solemnly promised to acknow-
ledge her error, and to recognise the very
true right to be instlye in the Quenes Ma-
iestie our Soueraygne Ladye to whom the
same belongeth, as lawfull Daughter and
Heire to king Henry the eight her Father,
and so also by the Lawes of y^e Realme per-
fectly establisshed, to succede king Edward
the sixte her Brother, and Quene Marye
her Elder Sister, and by the Homage of
all her Nobles, Prelates, and People as
duely acknowledged at her Coronation, as
euer any kyng of England was in any for-
mer tyme: And in very dede, as worthy a
Prince for this Realme for her Clemencie
and goodnes in gouernment as euer reigned

It is also knowne y^e the Scottish Quene
hath not yet perfourmed her promise, but
with freuolous answares hath delayed it,
neyther

Neither is it of any force to be demanded,
or worth the hanging, if she would yelde to
performe it. For neither can she y could
not gette this Realme whan she sought it
wrongfully, nor keepe her owne whan she
had it quietly, amende the Quenes Maie-
ties estate: whiche is fully perfect: nor yet
is any thyng that she should promise, to be
holden firme and durable: but as time shall
giue her cause to keepe it or bryeake it.

It is also said and credibly abowed that
the Scottishe Quene, was y greatest cause
of the Rebellion lately in the North, wher
by some noble Houses that had serued this
Realme, partly by themselves, & speciallly
by their Ancestors valiantly against the
Scottes, were now by connyng practise of
this Scottishe Lady beyng depriued of her
Kingdome, inticed to querthrow them sel-
ues and their Houses, with a multitude of
more English Subiectes than she could
haue don by Armes in the Field, yf she had
bene in possession of her Kingdome.

It is also knowen, notwithstanding
this, that the Quenes Maestie
beyng voyde of a reuengynge Nature,
(as in all Actes hath so appeared,
that some sorte of wyse men haue noted

it a faulte for a Prince) did labour to haue
restored her to her Countrey (as in dede
the Quenes Maiestie was the cause of sa-
uinge of her lyfe, after the murder of her
husband) with composition betwixt her and
her sonne the kyng, and h^e States & people
of that Realme, thereby to put som good end
to the Ciuill warres in the same.

It is also knowen, that the Quene of
Scottes did vpon the first apprehension of
the Duke of Norffolke by wytynges to the
Quenes Maiestie, vtterly renounce the
Duke of Norffolke and his Marpage, with
some Roate that she did not of her selfe first
moue it, no2 yet lyke it. And so did the
Duke him self, after his first apprehension:
by many messages, and by special writing
directed to the Quenes Maiestie, humbly
and penitentlye acknowledge his offence
in seeking to mary wth the Scottish Quene,
and did firmly vnder his hand and Seale
promyse neuer to deale therein any further,
no2 in any other matter with that Quene.

And now it is certainly founde, that the
former practise betwixte that Quene and
the Duke, notwithstanding their seuerall
renunciations and firme promises to the
contrarye, hath had continuance without
interrup.

interruption by secret meanes of slyde euill
parsons, both all the tyme that the Duke
was first in Prison in the Tower: and also
euer since, whan he was committed to his
owne House, vntill he was nowe newlye
committed to the Tower.

But how dangerous soener this attempt
may be iudged in them to cōtinue the secret
practise and intention to marry agaynst the
Queenes Maiesties wyll, and the expecta-
cion of all that be knowne duetyfull Sub-
iectes to her Maiestie, and true friendes to
the Duke: That maye best appeare by the
daungerous practises that haue accompa-
nied and folowed this attempte, which Al-
mighty God hath maruelously discovered,
to the safety of her Maiesties person & pre-
seruation of the Realme.

It was devised & determyned that a new
Rebellion should be moued nere London.
The Cittie should be taken by force and
possessed: In the meane time, a number of
Strangers men of warre, should be brought
by Sea from the low Countreies beyond
the Seas, to a notable Port of this Realme
meete for the purpose, and so both forces of
ennemies and Rebelles should ioyne, and
than procede to further thynges than is

expedient (as I heare) to be spoken off at
this tyme.

These deuises were not onely talked off,
put in wytynges, and fully concluded, but
the Messengers were also sent ouer Sea in
Lent last, with sufficient Authoritie of com-
mission and wytynges to testifie the deter-
mination of them that shuld be the heades
and conductors of this Rebellion, as the
same beyng imparted on the other side the
Sea, was wel accepted & allowed: and ther-
of seuerall Letters were speedilye written
to the said Quene, & to the Duke of Nor-
folke, & specially to that vngacious Priest
named the Bishhop of Ross (the Instru-
ment of all the Dukcs calamitie, and the
hede man of all Treasons againste this
Realme) that this enterpryse must be kept
secret, and namely from the Frenche, for
certayne respectes not of small moment, as
is said, vntill the Messenger should pcke to
Rome to the Pope for Money, & to the king
of Spayne for order and direction, for men
and Ships. The Messenger had his Let-
ters of Credit from the Scottissh Quene,
the Duke, and others, to the Pope, and
the King of Spayne. And so comminge
to Rome: he retourned Letters from the
Poves gracious holynes in the beginnyng
of May to the said Quene, and to the Duke
and

and others. The Letter to the Duke was
in Latin, beginning, Dilecte fili, salutem.
But in dede the Duke might well saye he
sent not Salutem but perniciem. The
Duke had them, and red them by the inter-
cession of that aforesaid vngacious Priest.
The contentes in som parte were, that the
Pope well allowed of the enterpryse: His
would write also to the king of Spayne to
further it, but his present busynes of the
chargeable Warres than in preparyng a-
gainst the Turke, was the cause that Mo-
ney could not then be had for that Sommer:
And yet his vngacious Holynes after his
accustomed sorte comforted them all not to
dispaire: So it appeareth that God yet or-
deyned him eyther to be so zelous against
the Turke, whiche surely was a good acte,
or els his Holynesse Coffers are not now a
dayes so full of Money as his Bulles are
of Thund erclappes, so as the lack of mo-
ney at that time happely stayed the prose-
cution to ful effect of this dangerous trea-
son: And so it is to be hoaped that by the
same goodnesse of God, the mischiefe here-
after ment shall be diuerted.

It was also by the deuillours of these rebel-
lions & inuasions determined y the Realme
of Irelande should be assailed at the same
tyme

sume thereby to weaken the Quenes Ma-
iesties Forces, or to diuert them from De-
fence of her selfe and her good Subiectes.

Now wer it best to leaue w these former
Branches, for it is credibly said, that this
Tree of Treason & Rebellion hath a num-
ber of other Branches of the very lyke na-
ture: That is, in deuysinge how the Scot-
tish Quene should haue ben conueyed a-
waye, somtyme by disguising, somtyme by
playne force, and raising of Rebellion: and
to put to libertie, and proclaymed Quene
of England and Scotland: but to encrease
the error of her Style: she should haue ben
proclaymed kyng and Quene of England
and Scotlande. It might be also repo-
ted how her Sonne should haue ben stolne
out of Scotlande, to be sent into Spayne,
with suche lyke deuises tending to moue
troubles in the Realme, that was and yet
is (thanked be God) quiet.

And now it may be that some wll saye,
that many of these thinges are doubtfull,
and percase weaisted in reporte, eyther by
malice, or by ouermuch credulitie: But
truelye in suche credible sorte are all the
thynges aboue mentioned, with sundrye
others to me reported to be verye true by
suche

suche as haue cause to know them, and vse
not to reporte vntrouthes, as I do boldly
avow them to be true. And yf they shal be
found other wise, than it is lykely that some
of the Quenes Maiesties Counsell wyll
cause them to be reprehended, who vpon
this my wytyng shall reporte them, and
thervpon I wyll patientlye suffre corre-
ction for my basse Credit: for it is mosse
lykely that suche matters of estate as these
are, wyll not be suffered to be communica-
ted wout reprehension. On the other side,
yf they be true, as I haue reported, and yet
not fully ynough reported, than tyme wyll
shortly enlarge and confirme them, whan
her Maiestie shal cause the parties now im-
prisoned to answere openly therto, by or-
der of her Lawes, as there is no doubt but
she wyll obserue to all maner of Subiectes
that course as hitherto manifestly & graci-
ously she hath don. and so God longe keepe
her vnder his speciall protection, as hither-
to he hath miraculously, to raygne ouer vs
in peace.

Since I wrote this, I am y more bolde-
ned to think all these thyngs true, for that
this present daye the Lorde Maior of this
Cittie of London with a number of his Bre-
thren were at the Starre Chamber with
the

